(c) the steps taken to ameliorate their lot; and

(d) if the answer to part (a) above be in negative, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) and (b) According to 1981 census estimates there were 13.6 million child labour in the country. No national survey has been conducted to ascertain the number of street children in the country. However, as Survey was undertaken jointly by Govt. and UNICEF in 8 cities of the country namely Hyderabad, Bangalore, Indore, Bombay, Madras, Kanpur, Calcutta and Delhi. According to the Sample Survey there are 1.10 lakh street children in Delhi and 0.40 lakh street children in Madras. Data regarding the total number of street children in other citie is not available.

(c) Child Labour is prohibited under various labour laws such as the Factories Act, 1948, Mines Act, 1952, Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966. The Child Labour (P&R) Act, 1986 prohibits child labour in various occupations and processes as listed in its schedule. A vigorous enforcement of these legislations through an effective inspection machinery is expected to act as a deterrent for employing children. Govt. have launched a training programme for labour inspectors for more effective inspections.

In addition to the legislative measures, there are various schemes taken up by the Govt. and International Organisations for children withdrawn from work. Under the National Child Labour Policy, projects have been taken up at present in 9 areas of child labour concentration. Similarly, there is a grant-in-aid scheme where grant to the extent of 75% is given to Voluntary Organisations for taking up projects for working children. The International Labour Organisation has also taken up project called the International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). Sity projects have been taken up under this project benefitting more then 33,000 children.

As regards street children Govt. has launched a Scheme for the Welfare of Street Children under which grants are sanctioned to Voluntary Organisations for the welfare of street children. It is being implemented to be implemented in 37 cities of the country including all State capitals. In addition to this there is also the Scheme of 'Welfare of Children in Need of Care and Protection' which has been transferred to State Govts./U.T. Admns. w.e.f. 1-4-1992. In addition to these schemes certain Voluntary Organisations are also doing work for rehabilitation of street children.

(d) Does not arise.

अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति के छात्रों के लिए छात्रावासों का निर्माण

5214. श्री कैलाश नारायण सारंग : क्या कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) केन्द्र प्रवर्तित योजना के अंतर्गत अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति के छात्रों के लिए छात्रावास भवनों के निर्माण हेतु राज्य सरकारों को अनुदान प्रदान करने का निर्णय कब लिया गया था;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि छात्रावास भवनों के निर्माण की लागत बढ़ी है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने योजना आरम्भ करते समय निर्धारित अधिकतम सीमा की तुलना में निर्माण लागत में वृद्धि के प्रतिशत के बारे में आकलन किया है;

(घ) क्या सरकार ऐसे छात्रावासों के निर्माण को स्वीकृति देते समय निर्माण लागत में वृद्धि के अनुपात में राज्यों के अनुदान में भी वृद्धि करने का विचार रखती है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो अनुदान में कब से वृद्धि की जाएगी ?

कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के. वी. तंगकाबालू) : (क) अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति की लड़कियों के लिए होस्टलों के निर्माण की केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजनाएं, तीसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान आरम्भ की गई थीं । अनुसूचित जाति व अनुसूचित जनजाति के लड़कों के लए होस्टलों के निर्माण की केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजनाएं 1989-90 में आरम्भ की गई थी ।

(ख) जी, हां ।

(ग) जी, नहीं । तथापि, इन योजनाओं के अंतर्गत निर्माण की प्रति संवासी सीमा लागत को 1-4-1991 से संशोधित किया गया था । तब से होस्टलों के निर्माण की लागत में लगभग 38% वृद्धि होने का अनुमान है । यह लागत स्थान-स्थान पर भिन्न हो सकती है ।

(घ) और (ङ) विद्यमान निर्माण लागतों को हटाने तथा संबंधित राज्य सरकारों और संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों के सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग की दरों के आधार पर केन्द्रीय सहायता प्रदान करने के एक प्रस्ताव को शीघ्र ही अंतिम रूप दिए जाने की आशा है ।

Seminar on social security for women

5215. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chairman of the National Human Rights Commission has urged the Government for initiating effective methods of social and economic security for women;

(b) if so, whether a two day seminar on social security for women was also held during March, 1994;

(c) if so, the number of suggestions made during the seminar by the participants;

(d) whether Government have examined all the suggestions made by the participants in the seminar;

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and how many of them have been considered; and

(f) by when a final decision for its implementation will be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A two day Seminar on Social Security for Women was organised by the Social Security Association of India with the support of other organisations on 21-22 Mar., 1994.

(c) The report of the seminar has not been received by the Government.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

National Commission for Backward Classes

5216. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Commission for Backward classes have prepared the guidelines to look into their grievances, if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(b) by when Government propose to implement these guidelines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) and (b) The National Commission for Backward Classes has been constituted to examine requests for inclusion of any class of citizens in the list of Other Backward Classes of citizens.

The Commission will also hear complaints of over inclusion or under-inclusion of any backward class in such lists and tender such advice to the Central Government as it deems appropriate.

The Commission shall in its functioning be governed by the provisions of the National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993 and the principles laid down by the Supreme Court in its majority judgement in Indira Sawhney and others Vs. Union of India and others (Mandal Case) delivered on 16-11-92.

Threat of strike by SC/ST Employees Association

5217. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the member of the National Confederation of SC and ST Employees' Organisations, New Delhi have threatened to go on an indefinite hunger strike shortly if their demands relating to promotions etc. were not met; and